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Project Name: WRHM Radio Tower, Alternate Access Road

Project Number: FCC # not specified; FAA ASN # 2006-ASO-699-OE

Project Sponsor: Mr. Manning Kimmel, WRHI-WRHM Radio, P.O. Box 307, Rock Hill, SC 29731

Project Location: Near Intersection of US 521 and SC 75, Lancaster County.

Field Personnel: Michael Trinkley

Date of Survey: October 12, 2006

Objective: To conduct a field survey of a newly proposed access road to a previously surveyed radio tower site. Background work is limited to review of SCIAA archaeological site files; historical and architectural background is being conducted by Mr. Michael Scoggins.

Background: Examination of the SCIAA archaeological site files failed to identify any previously recorded archaeological sites with a 0.5 mile APE.

Survey Description: A previously surveyed radio tower access road (Trinkley 2006) proved unavailable and this new alignment was selected. There is an existing graveled road running south off East Rebound Road to several recently constructed houses. Close to the terminus of this road a new access road is proposed. The road will be approximately 12 feet in width and graveled.

At the time of this survey the proposed access road was being cleared, allowing excellent surface visibility. A series of eight shovel tests were conducted to verify soil conditions and examine the few level areas present in the alignment. Shovel tests were approximately 1-foot square and were screened through ¼-inch mesh for recovery of any archaeological remains present.

The project area is today wooded in mixed hardwoods and pine with a thick scrub and herbaceous vegetation understory. Few of the standing trees appear older than about 30 years, suggesting multiple logging operations over the past 50 years. This newly proposed access road is on Cecil clay loams, 2-6% slopes, severely eroded (Rogers 1973:Map 8). Cecil soils generally have an Ap horizon of light yellowish-brown (10YR6/4) fine sandy loam about 0.4 foot over a B horizon of yellowish-red (5YR5/6) sand loam that grades into a clay loam and then a red clay. Such profiles, however, are truncated in the eroded and severely eroded phases of this series. Rogers (1973:15) notes that even on the less steeply sloping soils, the Cecil clay loams have lost all of the original surface soil and 25% of their subsoils, exposing red clay surface soils. Gullies are

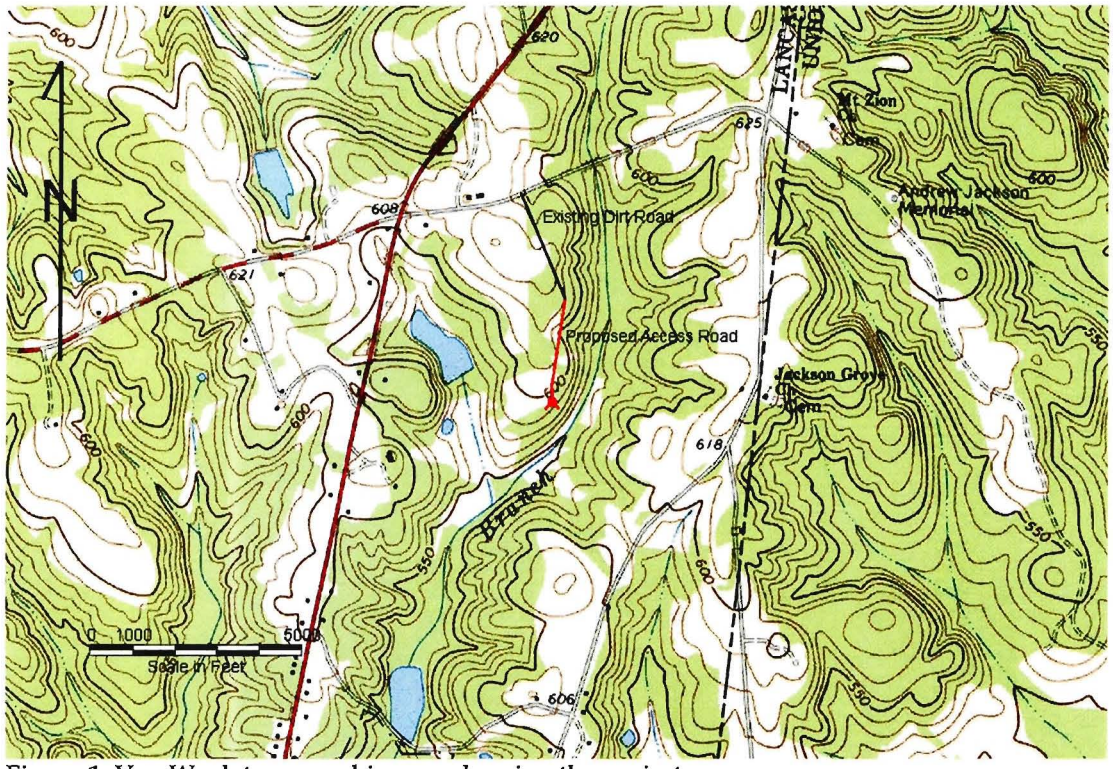

Figure 1. Van Wyck topographic map showing the project area.

found throughout and today much of the area has been converted to woodlots in an effort to control additional erosion. Trimble (1974) reports this area has lost at least 7-inches and often up to 9-inches of its soil. The South Carolina Erosion Survey reported that this area of Lancaster had severe sheet erosion with occasional gullies (Lowry 1934).

While the existing road crosses an area of level soils with a moderately high potential for archaeological remains, the proposed new alignment is placed at the edge of the slope. Throughout its alignment the topography is rolling with numerous gullies and much evidence of side slope erosion. Areas of level ground are rare and throughout the corridor there was area where more than 0.1 foot of A horizon soil was identified. This horizon represents currently forming humic soils reflecting the stabilization of the profile by silvacultural practices.

Results: None of the shovel tests in the access road identified any cultural remains. Occasional quartz cobbles were identified, but all were unaltered and exhibited no evidence of burning or use. Soils throughout are heavily eroded, steeply sloping, and gullied. The potential for the identification of cultural remains is very low.

Summary: No remains were identified in the area to be impacted by the grading and gravelling of the access road.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered during construction activities. As always, contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer,

Figure 2. Existing gravel road, called Dirt Road, looking south from beginning of new location .

Figure 3. Proposed new access road with red clay exposed at the surface.

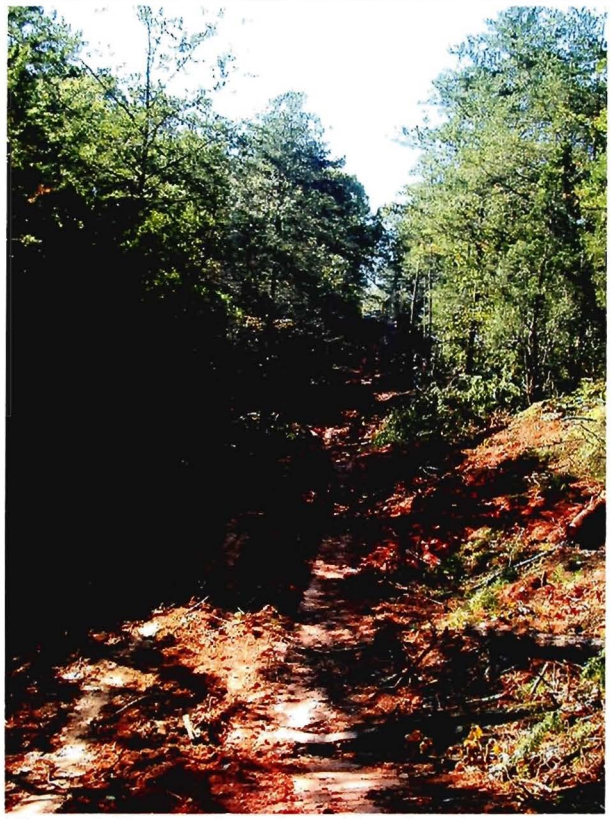

Figure 4. Proposed road corridor showing erosion, sloping topography, and exposed red clay.

who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

Lowry, M.W.
1934 *Reconnaissance Erosion Survey of the State of South Carolina.* U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Rogers, Virgil A.
1973 *Soil Survey of Lancaster County, South Carolina.* U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Trimble, Stanley W.
1974 *Man-Induced Soil Erosion on the Southern Piedmont, 1700-1970.* Soil Conservation Society of America, Ankeny, Iowa.